

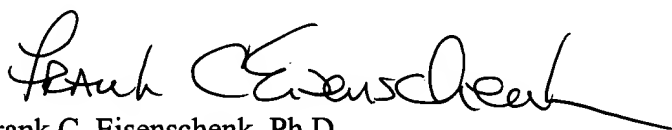
Remarks

As an initial matter, Applicants wish to point out that the "Disposition of Claims" section on the Office Action Summary page of the written Restriction Requirement dated May 30, 2003 in the above-identified patent application does not indicate that claims 1-30 and 32-47 are canceled, as requested in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed May 15, 2001 (a copy of which is attached for the Examiner's convenience). Accordingly, Applicants wish to clarify that claims 1-30 and 32-47 have been canceled and that the claim 31, as amended in that paper, is the only pending claim in the subject application. Therefore, Applicants do not believe an election of species is required at this time in the subject application. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement dated May 30, 2003 be vacated and that examination of the claimed invention be initiated.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Copy of Preliminary Amendment filed May 15, 2001